

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application No. 6,478,064 to Ueyoko taken in view of the admitted state of the prior art and U.S. Patent No. 5,437,321 to Breny. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references, alone or in combination do not disclose or suggest all of the features of amended independent Claims 1 and 10. In particular, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references fail to disclose or suggest a method of manufacturing a radial tire for a construction vehicle that includes, *inter alia*, a wrapping step of wrapping a shape retaining layer on an outer peripheral side of the carcass layer, where the shape retaining layer consists of a first shape retaining layer and a second shape retaining layer laminated in a central region of the first shape retaining layer, and further wherein the organic fiber cores of the two shape retaining layers have a mutually intersecting relationship with each other, and a mutually intersecting relationship with the steel cords of the carcass layer, as now defined in amended independent Claims 1 and 10.

In the Office Action, with regard to the inclusion of more than one shape retaining layer, the Examiner asserted (on page 4, line 20, through page 5, line 1) that “additional organic plies can be provided in the form of an organic fiber belt layer.” In the Ueyoko reference, the reference to “an organic fiber belt layer” refers to belt 7, such as in Figure 1 of the Ueyoko reference.

However a belt layer is wrapped on the green tire after toroidal shaping in a typical manufacturing process for a pneumatic radial tire (*see, e.g.*, column [0002] in the Specification of the present application). Therefore, the belt 7 in Ueyoko does not correspond to the claimed second shape retaining layer. Accordingly, as it has been shown that at least one feature of each of amended independent Claims 1 and 10 is not disclosed or suggested in the cited references, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection of independent Claims 1 and 10 and their associated dependent claims.

Claims 1, 8/1, 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over WO 80/00069 to Schmit et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Schmit et al. reference fails to disclose or suggest all of the features defined in amended independent Claims 1 and 10. In particular, Applicants respectfully submit that the Schmit et al. reference fails to include the first and second shape retaining layers, as now defined in independent Claims 1 and 10.

In the Office Action, the Examiner equated layer 220 of Figure 11 of Schmit et al. with the claimed shape retaining layer. However, even assuming *arguendo* that layer 220 could be considered as a shape retaining layer, there is no disclosure or suggestion of a *second* shape retaining layer, as now defined in amended independent Claims 1 and 10. Accordingly, for at least this reason, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this §103 rejection.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the claimed invention. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would aid in the prosecution of the application, or that outstanding issues exist, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

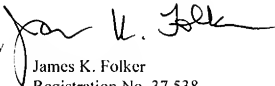
If a Petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for an extension of time for response is required to make the attached response timely, it is hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for an extension of time for response in the above-identified application for the period required to make the attached response timely. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069.

Respectfully submitted,

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